

METHOD FOR MANIPULATION IDENTIFICATION ON A SENSOR

The invention relates to a method for identification of manipulation to an arrangement comprising a sensor which emits
5 pulses and a recording unit.

Particularly in the field of operating data recording for a commercial vehicle by means of a tachograph, it is essential to avoid manipulation on the basis of the original character of
10 the recordings. In addition to the relevance of these recordings as evidence in legal disputes, the safety of the vehicle operation and labor-law aspects are also important here. With the new generation of digital tachographs in accordance with EU Order EU-VO 3821/85, these appliances are
15 being developed against the requirement to reliably prevent manipulation of this new technology. One obvious method for deceitful manipulation of the recordings is the capability to modify, for example electromagnetically, the signal from a sensor which is generally fitted in the transmission area of
20 the motor vehicle. For example, if the regularly pulsed signals from the sensor which are transmitted in real time could be delayed thus resulting in the recorded speed always being slower than the speed of travel.

25 One object of the invention is thus to make it harder to manipulate the transmission of a signal which is correlated with the distance traveled and/or with the speed from a sensor which emits pulses to a recording unit.

30 The invention proposes a method as claimed in claim 1 in order to achieve the object. The dependent claims contain advantageous developments of the method according to the invention.

The method according to the invention is used particularly advantageously for personnel-related recording of data relating to the operation of a motor vehicle, when the recording unit is in the form of a tachograph and the sensor which emits pulses transmits a signal which is unambiguously correlated with the distance traveled by the vehicle to the recording unit or to the tachograph, since this application is subject to particularly stringent requirements for manipulation security. The sensor which emits pulses is in this case advantageously in the form of a Hall probe and interacts with a rotating transmission component which has projections and cutouts alternately, and in this way, the permeability in the vicinity of the Hall probe measurably changes a pulsed signal, preferably an approximately square-wave signal. The sensor accordingly transmits to the recording unit real time pulses whose period duration is unambiguously correlated with the rotation frequency of the corresponding transmission component, and is unambiguously correlated with the vehicle speed and the distance traveled. The method according to the invention achieves excellent manipulation security in that the measurement results of the sensor measurement are transmitted to the recording unit both as real time pulses and as data signals. For this purpose, the sensor has a corresponding evaluation unit which translates the real time pulses into data signals with more information content, and which are then transmitted to the recording unit in parallel with the real time pulses. According to the invention, such transmission is initiated by the recording unit, in particular by a data evaluation module in the recording unit, by means of a first request instruction, to which the sensor responds with the data signal. Because of the cyclic transmission of the first request instruction to the sensor, the data signal evaluation module in the recording unit can complete the measurement of the sensor by means of the data signals without any gaps. The real time pulses which are transmitted from the sensor to the recording

unit in parallel with the data signal are received by the recording unit by means of a real time signal interface, and the number of these pulses is added to form a number of real time pulses. The data signal evaluation module uses a second
5 request instruction to request the number of real time pulses from the real time signal interface at cyclic intervals, and compares the difference between the number of real time pulses relating to the current request to that of the previous request for the number of pulses, which the data signal evaluation
10 determined from the cyclically transmitted data signals for the same time period.

The data signal evaluation module thus always compares the numbers of real time pulses associated with the correct time
15 interval for measurement with corresponding numbers of data signal pulses, and in order to ensure that there is no incorrect association during this process, the first request instruction and the second request instruction are transmitted offset by a specific time interval Δt . This time interval Δt is
20 matched to the cycle of the first request instructions and of the time difference in the signal transmission between the real time signal on the one hand and the real time pulses and the data signal.

25 The method according to the invention is particularly advantageous when the cyclic transmission of the data signal from the sensor to the recording unit takes place at regular time intervals, in particular at one-minute intervals. Approximately one-minute intervals have been found to be
30 particularly advantageous since, particularly when using the method according to the invention for the recording function of a tachograph, with software in which the method is implemented being configured in a modular form in layers, the software modules can reliably complete one cycle during this time
35 between the interfaces and the evaluation with respect to the

processing and transmission of the real time signals and of the data signals.

5 A layered structure of the method according to the invention and a corresponding implementation in such a manner that data signal evaluation is arranged in a layer which produces, receives and processes raw data, result in major advantages in the implementation and in the event of changes, with a second layer, which communicates with the first layer, looking after
10 the transfer of data in such a way that data is transformed conformally in accordance with data transmission protocols, or is additionally also scrambled. A third layer, which communicates with the second layer, comprising, by way of example, a serial data interface and a real time signal
15 interface, in this case expediently addresses a processor register and generates processor interrupts for processing of data streams. One component of the second layer is expediently a transfer module, which transforms the data signals from the data signal evaluation module to a form which is matched to the
20 data transmission protocol, and accordingly transforms received data signals which conform with the protocol from the sensor to the recording unit back, for internal further processing in the recording unit.

25 In order to prevent any manipulation, it is worthwhile for the recording unit to transmit the data signals to the sensor and for the sensor to transmit them to the recording unit in a scrambled form, and for a transfer module to be a component of the recording unit, which transfer module scrambles and
30 descrambles data signals from the recording unit to the sensor and from the sensor to the recording unit, respectively. Real time pulses can expediently be transmitted from the sensor to a real time signal evaluation module essentially independently of this, without scrambling and without conforming with a data
35 transmission protocol.

The real time signal evaluation module which converts real time pulses (which have been transmitted from the real time signal point) in particular to information about speed when using the method for a tachograph, is advantageously connected for signaling purposes to the data signal evaluation module, to which the results of this evaluation are transmitted as a second data signal. Such transmission and communication between the real time signal evaluation module and the data signal evaluation module expediently take place asynchronously by means of a communication memory which is arranged between the two modules.

In practice, it has been found to be worthwhile for the time interval between the first request instruction and the second request instruction to have a length of between 50 ms and 300 ms. A time interval of between 147 ms and 172 ms allows the best stability to be achieved for the method according to the invention, as well as minimal susceptibility to faults, so that the data signal evaluation always associates the number of real time pulses with a correct number of data signal pulses, and arrives at the correct comparison results.

In consequence, the invention will be explained in more detail using one specific exemplary embodiment and with reference to a drawing for illustrative purposes, in which:

Figure 1 shows a schematic illustration of the method according to the invention.

Figure 1 shows an arrangement comprising a tachograph DTCO and a sensor S. The tachograph DTCO is connected to the sensor S by means of a real time signal line RTL and a data line DL. Major components of the tachograph DTCO are a serial data signal interface DSI, a transfer module TM, a data signal evaluation

module DSE, a communication memory KM, a real time signal evaluation module RTSE and a real time signal interface RTI. The tachograph DTCO in this case carries out the function of a recording unit RM, according to the invention.

5 At the start of a signal transmission process, the tachograph DTCO sends authentication data 70 to the sensor S, initiated by the data signal evaluation DSE, followed by a response request 80. After successful authentication by both parties and the interchange of a session key, the tachograph DTCO and the
10 sensor S start to transmit data related to the operation of the commercial vehicle, in accordance with ISO 16844-3. Every minute, the data signal evaluation module DSE uses a first request instruction 1.0 to initiate transmission of the measurement results from the sensor for the intermediate period
15 as a data signal DS to the data signal evaluation module DSE. During this process, the method according to the invention operates in accordance with a layered implementation in such a way that the data signal evaluation module DSE transmits and receives the first request 1.0 and the data signal DS in the
20 form of raw data, since the real time signal evaluation module RTSE, the communication memory KM and the data signal evaluation DSE are associated with a first layer 1.L.

First request instruction 1.0 is passed as raw data from the
25 data signal evaluation module DSE to the transfer module TM, which is associated with the second layer 2.L. As an element in the second layer 2.L, the transfer module TM transforms the first request instruction 1.0 to a form in accordance with a data transmission protocol DSP.

30 The data signals which conform with the protocol are also scrambled by the transfer module TM, and are passed to an element in a third layer 3.L for implementation of the method according to the invention, specifically to the data signal
35 interface DSI. The third layer 3.L addresses a process register

at the lowermost level and generates interrupts in particular for the data interchange with the sensor S. The first request instruction is in this way passed via the data signal interface DSI by means of the data line DL to the sensor S. A
5 corresponding path in the reverse direction with essentially inverse processes is used to take the data signal DS emitted from the sensor to the data signal evaluation module DSE.

Essentially independently of the processes D which are
10 associated with the data signal DS and, illustrated schematically, are located on a side D, which is annotated D, of a boundary line G, processes which are associated with real time pulses RTS take place on the side RT, which is annotated RT, at the same time beyond this boundary line G. The sensor S
15 uses the real time signal line RTL to send real time pulses RTS to the real time signal interface RTI.

The real time signal interface RTI, which is located in the third layer 3.L, transmits corresponding signals RTS to the
20 real time signal evaluation module RTSE, with the number of real time signals RTS being continuously added to the number of real time pulses RTSN.

The data signal evaluation module DSE sends a second request
25 instruction 2.0 to the real time signal interface RTI, with the interposition of the transfer module TM delayed by a specific time interval Δt with respect to the first request instruction 1.0, specifically by about 147 ms to 172 ms, matched to the processes, which take place in the second layer 2.L and in the
30 third layer 3.L, for transmission of the data signal DS and of the first request instruction 1.0, respectively. The real time signal interface RTI transmits the number of real time pulses RTSN directly to the data signal evaluation module DSE with a corresponding time offset with respect to the arrival of the

data signal DS from the sensor S in the data signal evaluation module DSE.

5 The data signal evaluation module DSE and the real time signal evaluation module RTSE interchange data asynchronously by means of the communication memory KM. The data signal evaluation module DSE compares the number of real time pulses RTSN with the number of data signal pulses DSN and, if there is a discrepancy between these two values that is greater than a
10 specific no longer tolerable amount, sets a fault flag FF in the communication memory KM, and this fault flag FF is read there by the real time signal evaluation module RTSE. In this case, the fault flag FF is used as an indicator of manipulation and is passed to a recording memory R. At the same time,
15 instead of the real time pulses RTS, the real time signal evaluation module RTSE receives the information from the data signal DS for determination of the distance traveled by the commercial vehicle.

20 A discrepancy which is defined as a limit is permissible in the comparison of the number of real time pulses RTSN and the number of data signal pulses DSN, and the fault flag FF is set if this discrepancy is exceeded.

25 Depending on the real time pulses RTS, the real time signal evaluation module RTSE transmits a motion signal V or a stop signal ST to the data signal evaluation module DSE.

30 If the real time signal evaluation module RTSE transmits the stop signal ST to the data signal evaluation module DSE, the data signal evaluation module DSE signals that the vehicle is stationary.

35 If the real time evaluation module RTSE does not transmit any signal V to the data signal evaluation module DSE in a

- situation in which the real time signal evaluation module RTSE identifies the "stop" state, and the real time signal interface RTI supplies an excessively low number of real time pulses RTSN = 0 in comparison to the number of data signal pulses DSN,
- 5 the fault flag FF is set and the distance traveled, as determined from the data signal, is used as the basis for recording, and the state is confirmed that the connection by means of the real time signal line RTL is faulty.
- 10 If the real time signal evaluation module RTSE transmits a signal V to the data signal evaluation module DSE in a situation in which the real time signal evaluation module RTSE identifies the "drive" state, and the real time signal interface RTI produces an excessively low number of real time
- 15 pulses RTSN in comparison to the number of data signal pulses DSN, the fault flag FF is set and the distance traveled or speed of travel as determined from the data signal DS is used as the basis for recording.
- 20 If the data signal DS is completely absent for the purposes of the cyclic request instructions 1.0, the fault flag FF is likewise set and the state is confirmed that the connection by means of the data line DL is faulty.